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ABSTRACT

This book is a guide to providing library resources and services that support homeschooling. The first section contains an overview of the homeschooling movement, statistics that show a nationwide trend toward this form of education, and an examination of the motivations, philosophies and educational styles of homeschoolers. The second section discusses how to determine the needs of homeschoolers and how to establish policies and programs that reflect those needs. Sample programs and services are presented in the words of librarians who have worked with homeschoolers. There is a list of the ten most requested topics for books and materials, lists of what homeschoolers liked the most and the least about their libraries, and suggestions from homeschoolers on how to provide better service. In the third section, critical issues in planning services are described: materials selection, intellectual freedom, balanced collections, and censorship. The fourth section looks at the future role of libraries in terms of the library as a "homeschool laboratory," cooperation between libraries, homeschoolers and school districts, and the onset of online home education. Appendices provide various sources for information on homeschooling including: homeschooling organizations; periodicals, newspapers, newsletters; correspondence schools and instructional service providers; homeschool curriculum and resource suppliers and publishers; suppliers of home education video and audiotapes; educational and/or homeschooling software suppliers; online home education connections; and a bibliography as well as a homeschooling survey for librarians. (AEF)

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